

62.

Lamentations for the Dead.

539^x

The lamentations of a mother over her fallen son, named 765
 'Abbūh. As the mention of the coat of mail indicates, it is,
 without doubt, an old song, or, from the favorite tales of the [73]
 adventures of renowned Arab heroes.

Compare the remark on No. 21.

'Abbūh, ya 'Abbūh,
 ibn-el-'arab madbūh,
 wummo warā bitnūh,
 wi'l-ūl: ya waladi,
 5 ya labis ez-zaradī,
 sikkimetak hūṣa
 fil-ardē marṣūsa,
 ma raṣṣehāš illāni.

'Abbūh, 'Abbūh,
 The Arab, is slain.
 His mother mourns for him
 And says: "O my son,
 5 O thou who wearest the coat of mail,
 Thy sword is like a palm-leaf,
 Buried in the earth,
 And no other than I has buried it."

{714}
 {411}

6. "Like a palm-leaf" means, according to Maḥmūd: slender, pointed and two-edged.

7. The meaning of the last two lines is not very clear. Did the mother bury the dead together with his sword? Another of our men dictated: ... madfūse, ma raṣṣehāš illāni, hence I translate: "bury".